**New Colombo Plan Scholarship - Richard Garrett – video transcript 24/6/14**

Narrator:

La Trobe University’s Richard Garrett has been awarded a New Colombo Plan scholarship, which will enable him to travel to Japan for six months to further his studies.

Richard Garrett:

My name is Richard Garrett and I’m currently in my fourth year of a Bachelor of Science Honors, Masters in Nanotechnology, and Advanced Diploma in Japanese.

I’m majoring in biochemistry and physics. What they are looking for with the New Colombo Plan Scholarship are representatives from Australia to go to four of the top Asian countries in the world and promote collaboration with work and study as a form of internship of mentorship.

Narrator:

Richard applied for the scholarship following a chance meeting with a researcher from the National Institute of Molecular Science at the Nanotechnology Exhibition in Japan.

Richard Garrett:

It looks like I’ll be doing some form of drug delivery research. What they are looking at is electro spinning a nano fibre mesh which can then be stitched in to the body for a cancer treatment or kidney disease and then using that mesh as a method of drug delivery.

Narrator:

Richard says he will also use his experience to immerse himself in the Japanese way of life and hone his language skills.

Richard Garrett:

I think that’s one of the major factors in me receiving the scholarship is the fact I’ve worked so hard to learn Japanese and show that I’m dedicated to the culture which is one of the major criteria for the scholarship. Mainly I’m looking at working in Japan once I finish my degree so any bonus in language skills, it really helps you stand out from the rest of the applicants.

Narrator:

Richard plans to travel to Japan in 2015 to undertake his scholarship.

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